

APPLICATION FOR UNITED STATES LETTERS PATENT

FOR

**Method and System for a Thermal Architecture  
and User Adjustable Keystone in a Display Device**

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**BACKGROUND**

5    1.    Technical Field

[0001] Embodiments of the invention relate to the field of rear projection display devices, and more specifically to a thermal architecture and user adjustable keystone in a rear projection display device.

10    2.    Background Information and Description of Related Art

[0002] In order to provide a television with a screen size greater than approximately 40 inches, a display device other than a direct view cathode ray tube (CRT) is typically used. As the screen size of a CRT increases, so too does the depth. It is generally accepted that for screen sizes greater than 40 inches direct view CRTs are no longer practical. Two alternatives exist for large screen (>40 inch screen size) displays: projection displays and plasma displays.

[0003] Current plasma displays are much more expensive than projection displays. Plasma displays are generally thin enough to mount on a wall, but can be heavy enough that mounting can be difficult. For example, current 42 inch plasma displays can weigh 80 pounds or more and 60 inch plasma displays can weigh 150 pounds or more. One advantage of plasma displays over current projection displays is that plasma displays are typically much thinner than current projection displays having the same screen size.

- [0004]** Projection displays, specifically rear projection displays, are typically more cost-effective than plasma displays. Projection displays may also consume too much space in a room to provide a practical solution for large screen needs. For example, typical 60 inch rear projection displays are 24 inches thick and can weigh
- 5 200 to 300 pounds.
- [0005]** Thin rear projection display devices have been developed that are less than 12 inches thick. However, these thinner rear projection display devices typically rely on an aspherical mirror, which is difficult to manufacture and difficult to align. The difficulties associated with the aspherical mirror results in current thin
- 10 rear projection displays being expensive, which restricts the availability of rear projection displays in desirable packages.

## **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF DRAWINGS**

- [0006] The invention may best be understood by referring to the following description and accompanying drawings that are used to illustrate embodiments of the invention. In the drawings:
- [0007] **FIG. 1** illustrates a display device according to one embodiment of the invention.
- [0008] **FIG. 2** illustrates a display device with planar mirrors to reflect an image on a screen according to one embodiment of the invention.
- 10 [0009] **FIG. 3** illustrates a mirror assembly in a display device according to one embodiment of the invention.
- [0010] **FIG. 4** illustrates a centered image projected on a screen of a display device according to one embodiment of the invention.
- 15 [0011] **FIG. 5a** illustrates an upward-adjusted image projected on a screen of a display device according to one embodiment of the invention.
- [0012] **FIG. 5b** illustrates a downward-adjusted image projected on a screen of a display device according to one embodiment of the invention.
- [0013] **FIG. 6a** illustrates a rightward-adjusted image projected on a screen of a display device according to one embodiment of the invention.
- 20 [0014] **FIG. 6b** illustrates a leftward-adjusted image projected on a screen of a display device according to one embodiment of the invention.

## **DETAILED DESCRIPTION**

**[0015]** Embodiments of a system and method for a thermal architecture and user adjustable keystone in a display device is described. In the following description,

numerous specific details are set forth. However, it is understood that embodiments

5 of the invention may be practiced without these specific details. In other instances, well-known circuits, structures and techniques have not been shown in detail in order not to obscure the understanding of this description.

**[0016]** Reference throughout this specification to “one embodiment” or “an embodiment” means that a particular feature, structure, or characteristic described

10 in connection with the embodiment is included in at least one embodiment of the invention. Thus, the appearances of the phrases “in one embodiment” or “in an embodiment” in various places throughout this specification are not necessarily all referring to the same embodiment. Furthermore, the particular features, structures, or characteristics may be combined in any suitable manner in one or more

15 embodiments.

**[0017]** Referring to Fig. 1, a block diagram illustrates a thermal architecture for a rear projection display device 100 according to one embodiment of the invention.

Those of ordinary skill in the art will appreciate that the display device 100 may

include more components than those shown in Fig. 1. However, it is not necessary

20 that all of these generally conventional components be shown in order to disclose an illustrative embodiment for practicing the invention.

**[0018]** The display device 100 includes a screen 110 and a base 102. The base

102 includes one or more vents, such as 104 and 106, to allow air to flow in and out

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of the display device. One or more heat sources 108, such as a lamp, generate heat in the display device. In one embodiment, the heat sources are placed away from the screen in the display device. One or more air movement devices, such as fan 112 or blower 114, move air from the heat source away from screen 110 and

5 toward the vents. The air movement devices may also cool the air from the heat sources as they move the air away from the screen and toward the vents.

**[0019]** Fig. 2 illustrates one embodiment of the display device 100 with planar mirrors to reflect an image on screen 110. In this embodiment, the display device 100 includes a lens system 202, a digital micromirror device (DMD) 204, and a

10 plurality of mirrors, such as 206 and 208, to reflect images on screen 110. Other components, for example, image generating components are not illustrated for reasons of simplicity of description. An image can be provided to DMD 204 in any manner known in the art. DMD 204 selectively reflects light from a light source (not shown in Fig. 2) to lens system 202. Other types of devices, such as

15 microelectromechanical systems (MEMS), grating light valve (GLV), liquid crystal display (LCD), and liquid crystal on silicon (LCOS), can be used to provide an image to lens system 202. In one embodiment, the mirrors are substantially parallel to the screen, which implies an alignment error of +/-10°. In one embodiment, the optic axis of the lens system is substantially perpendicular to the screen, which also

20 implies an alignment error of +/-10°.

**[0020]** In one embodiment, lens system 202 is a wide angle lens system. In general, the wider the angle of lens system 202, the thinner display device 100 can be made. The image from DMD 204 is projected by lens system 202 to mirror 206.

Mirror 206 reflects the image to mirror 208, which reflects the image to screen 110.

In one embodiment, the screen 110 is a Fresnel lens, for example, a refractive Fresnel lens or a total internal reflection (TIR) Fresnel lens.

**[0021]** Fig. 3 illustrates a mirror assembly 300 in display device 100 according to 5 one embodiment of the invention. Mirror assembly 300 includes a mirror 302 to reflect an image on screen 110, a first frame 306, and a second frame 304. The first frame 306 pivots about a first axis 310. The second frame 304 is pivotably mounted in the first frame 306 to pivot about a second axis 312. In the exemplary embodiment of Fig. 3, the second axis 312 is substantially perpendicular to the first 10 axis 310, which implies an alignment error of +/-10°. In other embodiments, the second axis 312 may be non-perpendicular to the first axis 310.

**[0022]** The mirror 302 is moveably mounted in the second frame 304. The mirror 302 is adapted to pivot about the first axis 310 via the first frame 306 and adapted to pivot about the second axis 312 via the second frame 304. The movement of mirror 15 302 allows for adjustment of an image reflected by the mirror and projected on screen 110.

**[0023]** The mirror and frames may be mounted using any conventional coupling, such as screws. The mounts 314 and 316 fix the second frame 304 along the second axis 312, allowing the second frame 304 to pivot about the second axis 312 20 by turning adjuster 318. The mounts 320 and 322 fix the first frame 306 along the first axis 310, allowing the first frame 306 to pivot about the first axis 310 by turning adjuster 324. In one embodiment, adjusters 318 and 324 are screws. In one embodiment, each adjuster includes a screw and a knob coupled to the screw for

easier adjustment. By turning the knob, the screw loosens or tightens to adjust the angle of the pivot of mirror 302. This adjusts the image reflected by the mirror and projected on screen 110.

[0024] Fig. 4 illustrates an image 400 projected on the screen 110 of the display device 100 according to one embodiment of the invention. The image is overscanned slightly around screen 110. The image shown in Fig. 4 has been adjusted to be centered on the screen 110. Suppose the adjuster 324 is turned to the right. In one embodiment, this causes the first frame 306 to pivot upward about the first axis 310. This adjusts the angle of the mirror 302, causing the image to be adjusted on the screen 110. One example of an image resulting from this type of adjustment is shown in Fig. 5a. The image in this example has been adjusted by pivoting the first frame 0.5 degrees upward about the first axis.

[0025] Suppose the adjuster 324 is turned to the left. In one embodiment, this causes the first frame 306 to pivot downward about the first axis 310. One example of an image resulting from this type of adjustment is shown in Fig. 5b. The image in this example has been adjusted by pivoting the first frame 0.5 degrees downward about the first axis.

[0026] Suppose the adjuster 318 is turned to the right. In one embodiment, this causes the second frame 304 to pivot to the right about the second axis 312. One example of an image resulting from this type of adjustment is shown in Fig. 6a. The image in this example has been adjusted by pivoting the second frame 0.35 degrees to the right about the second axis.

[0027] Suppose the adjuster 318 is turned to the left. In one embodiment, this causes the second frame 304 to pivot to the left about the second axis 312. One example of an image resulting from this type of adjustment is shown in Fig. 6b. The image in this example has been adjusted by pivoting the second frame 0.35 degrees  
5 to the left about the second axis.

[0028] The adjusters 324 and 318 may be turned to pivot the mirror at various angles about the first axis and the second axis. By tilting the mirror at different angles, the image is reflected at different angles on the screen. This allows for easy user adjustment of the image on the screen.

10 [0029] While the invention has been described in terms of several embodiments, those of ordinary skill in the art will recognize that the invention is not limited to the embodiments described, but can be practiced with modification and alteration within the spirit and scope of the appended claims. The description is thus to be regarded as illustrative instead of limiting.